



CLARK



*a new
chapter*

14

BU President
David Docherty

accessible education

18

fired up

22



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IN THIS ISSUE

4 President's Message

5 Convocation

10 Campus

13 Discovery

14 Features

26 Homecoming

29 Alumni

30 Support

34 Sports



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Send us your stories – As alumni, you undoubtedly have much to tell us about the relationships that you developed while at BU – ClarkMag@BrandonU.ca

Clark is published twice a year and reaches more than 15,000 alumni and friends of Brandon University worldwide.

To date, thousands of alumni have supported the Brandon University Alumni Association (BUAA) through participation in alumni programs, affinity products and service offerings. If you do not wish to be provided with product or service offers or do not wish to receive *Clark* in the future, please contact the Alumni Office.

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From new beginnings to Homecoming

Convocation is my favourite day of the academic calendar but fall is definitely my favourite academic season. Faculty are back from their research and family time, returning students are swapping stories from the summer, and new students are anxiously settling into life at BU. There is an exciting feel to the campus, and everyone is looking forward to the Fall Term.

I started my term as President of Brandon University in May of this year, so this was my first “back to school” experience in the Wheat City. I had the real pleasure of meeting some first-year students as they moved into residence over the Labour Day weekend, many with the help of their parents. In my observation, the parents were just as nervous as the students! It was ironic that while I was here doing this, my magnificent wife, Kris, was moving our youngest, Madison, into residence at the University of British Columbia. I felt every bit the parent as I did the University President that weekend.

We are a true university family. This fall we have all three of our children at university. Our eldest, Angus, is starting graduate school at University of Calgary, the middle child, Quinn, is in fourth-year Business in Halifax, and Madison on the West Coast.

As a family we know the value of education, and it goes far beyond the important economic benefit one derives as a result of a Bachelor or other degree. It includes the meaningful life lessons that you gain as a university student. The thirst for knowledge and answers to meaningful questions is fueled during one’s university days and lasts for a lifetime.

Universities also produce amazing citizens. The alumni award winners from Spring Convocation who are featured in this magazine, and those who will be recognized at Homecoming this fall, are a testament to the importance of universities in producing engaged and compassionate citizens. In addition, you will read about the important accomplishments of our University community in research, teaching and community service.

The articles in this issue of Clark highlight that the doors to a university experience should not be open for only a select group of people. Greg Barlett’s story is compelling. He began his transformative education as a mature student at age 35. He is making significant contributions to disaster response, based in part on his time at BU, and is considering further studies. This is the type of life-long learning and community commitment that makes BU so proud. Our Student Accessibility Services office, which breaks down physical and learning barriers, is also featured.

I look forward to my first year as President of Brandon University. With so many compelling stories, it is impossible to not be excited. I have enjoyed meeting some of our great alumni, and I look forward to meeting many more. Please consider joining us in Brandon for this year’s Homecoming celebrations, October 17th to the 20th!

DR. DAVID DOCHERTY
President of Brandon University

SPRING CONVOCATION

Tassels were moved from one side of their caps to the next as Brandon University's newest alumni marked the symbolic moment when they moved from student to graduate.

Nearly 590 students graduated during an expanded Convocation celebration this year, as a third ceremony was added and the festivities were extended to a second day. The 2019 graduating class was slightly larger than the year before and BU's biggest Convocation since 2013.



Awards



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PANDELIS HALAMANDARIS

Pandelis Halamandaris is a Professor Emeritus at Brandon University with a multi-decade record of service to education, particularly international education. Born in Suez, Egypt, of Greek descent, he got an early start as an assistant teacher at a one-room elementary school there in the 1950s. After earning a Master's and PhD in education research

in the United States, he came to Canada in 1970 with his wife and two children and initiated First Nations-focused teacher training at Brandon University.

With funding from BU and the Canadian International Development Agency, Halamandaris embarked on international projects in Swaziland and Malawi. He published several times on the internationalization of Canadian universities, and later accepted an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Swaziland.



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD TOM MITCHELL

Tom Mitchell played hockey and studied history at Brandon University in the late 1960s.

Following completion of a Master of Arts degree at the University of Manitoba in 1973, he taught at Neelin High School for several years, before returning to Brandon University in the early 1980s. At BU, he

served as Dean of Students, Registrar, and University Archivist before retiring in 2012.

He is now an independent researcher, a filmmaker, and a writer with many interests, including traditional historical and archival practice, that tend to converge on public history. His work has appeared in multiple journals. An invited article, "Strike or Revolution? H.A. Robson's Inquiry into the Winnipeg General Strike," appears this fall in a special issue of *The Manitoba Law Journal*.



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD DAVID WILSON

David Wilson is a Brandon College graduate, high school educator, and dedicated volunteer who created multiple new events to share music, theatre, and culture with students and community.

Among his many contributions to the local cultural scene are music educator workshops, Stratford theatre trips,

Augustfest, and Mosaic Massey, an annual Festival of Life and Learning that brought world-renowned musicians, politicians, scientists, astronauts, and writers to mingle with students and teachers from across Manitoba, all open to the public.

Wilson, a Member of the Order of Canada as well as a two-time Queen's Jubilee Medal winner (Gold in 2002 and Diamond in 2012), considers that his greatest contribution and satisfaction comes from acting as a catalyst for the pleasure and fulfillment of others.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

GERALD BUTLER

From his earliest memories growing up across the street from campus, Gerald Butler has maintained a close connection with Brandon College and Brandon University.

Graduating with a science degree and an education certificate prepared him for teaching high school physics and chemistry,

but what Butler found he really loved was being in the people business, and shortly after he moved into the financial industry.

Today, he says the same smallness and caring for people that attracted him to BU as a student now binds him as a caring alumnus. He and his wife Carmen steward a family foundation whose mission is to help people help themselves to a happy, healthy, abundant life. Their dream is to eradicate poverty and discrimination — racial, religious, and gender — and they believe that education is a critical part of the solution.



SENATE EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AWARD

BURCU YAMAN NTELIOGLOU

Burcu Yaman Ntelioglou is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education, who teaches in both the teacher education and graduate education programs.

Her research in the field of language and literacy education explores ethical local and global questions about social justice, equity, migration, and globalization in

schools, with a focus on the wellbeing and academic success of students who are in a linguistic minority. This includes newcomer, immigrant, and refugee students as well as Indigenous students.

Yaman Ntelioglou works with parents, educators and elders to support language learning and to revitalize Indigenous languages. Her research also makes important contributions to the literature on community-based, participatory, collaborative, and culturally relevant research methodologies.



SENATE EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

REINHOLD KRAMER

Reinhold Kramer is a Professor of English and Creative Writing at Brandon University who teaches courses in Canadian, Commonwealth, and postmodern literatures, film, and contemporary critical theory in a very collegial department.

His published books include *Scatology and Civility in the English-Canadian Novel*. With

co-author Tom Mitchell, he published *Walk Towards the Gallows*, which won the Margaret McWilliams Award, and *When the State Trembled*, which was short-listed for the John W. Dafoe Prize.

Kramer's book, *Mordecai Richler: Leaving St. Urbain* (McGill-Queen's University Press), made several Canadian best-seller lists, won a Canadian Jewish Book Award, the Gabrielle Roy Prize, and was named by CBC.ca as one of the "Top 100" pop culture mementoes of 2008, alongside Madonna's *Sticky & Sweet* tour.



Awards



BUAA EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

ALLISON McCULLOCH

Allison McCulloch is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science, teaching in the fields of Comparative Politics and International Politics. McCulloch joined Brandon University in 2009 after completing her PhD at Queen's University; she also previously taught at Laurentian University and Wilfrid Laurier University and held

a visiting research fellowship at Queen's University Belfast. An author and editor, she has published more than 15 journal articles or book chapters since joining BU.

She researches the processes and institutions that facilitate democracy, security, and stability in post-conflict settings, focusing on the design of power-sharing arrangements. McCulloch is also actively involved with the Women's Resource Centre in Brandon, where she recently completed a term as Chair of the Board of Directors.



BOARD OF GOVERNORS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

NOVELL THOMAS

Novell Thomas has been at Brandon University since 2012. In addition to his regular duties as a faculty member and as the Head Coach of the Women's basketball program, he has established various youth programs such as the Bobcat Basketball Academy, the Junior Bobcats, and the Westman Youth Basketball Association.

This community service fulfils a long-standing void in the Westman Region for continuous and consistent youth basketball programming as well as promoting Brandon University, BU Bobcats Basketball, and BU Athletics.

Today, these community programs involve over 400 registrants a year — a growth of more than 650% since he founded them.

These large increases are a byproduct of Thomas' passion for growing basketball in the region, program design, and community leadership.



DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

(KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 6)

VAL ARTHUR

Val Arthur has spent her whole career developing relationships with remarkable young people — a vital approach to education that helps learning fall into place.

Arthur began her education career teaching Grade 5 and 6 in Souris, then moved to Wawanesa to teach Grade 1.

After six years there, she moved to Brandon to pursue her fifth year of the Bachelor of Education and found a home at Meadows School as a Resource Teacher, and as a Grade 1 and Grade 2 teacher.

From experiencing the joy of someone reading their first book or adding double digit numbers to the responsibility of holding that first tooth that falls out or receiving a genuine hug from a child, Arthur says being a teacher is a great pleasure.



DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

(GRADE 7 TO 9)

KELLY KUZYK

Kelly Kuzyk is a graduate of the Brandon University education program who has spent her entire teaching career at Mackenzie Middle School in Dauphin. She began by teaching Grade 7, 8, and 9

Basic French. She later moved to a Grade 7 homeroom where she taught language arts, math, science, and social studies.

For a five-year period, she served as vice-principal of Mackenzie, but missed teaching so she returned to the classroom. Kuzyk has been actively involved in supporting extra-curricular programs at Mackenzie.



DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

(GRADE 10 TO 12)

RYAN OGILVIE

Ryan Ogilvie grew up on a small farm near Teulon, Manitoba before earning a Bachelor of Science in 2002 and a Bachelor of Education in 2004, both from Brandon University. He began his teaching career at Sanford Collegiate in 2004 and has taught sciences there for the past 15 years. At Sanford, he has helped create a learning

environment that inspires students to continue their science education beyond high school. Ogilvie also earns the trust of colleagues by listening and giving guidance when called upon.

Ogilvie values positive relationships with his students, parents and the community. He organizes and coaches extra-curricular events to develop connections outside of the classroom. Inside the classroom, Ogilvie strives for a culture of independence and self-reflection for his students.



CAMPUS

New leaders appointed in Health Studies, Arts faculties

FACULTY OF HEALTH STUDIES

An internationally recognized scholar in the fields of epidemiology, public health and preventive medicine and an experienced administrative leader in higher education has become Brandon University's new Dean of the Faculty of Health Studies.



Dr. John Moraros

Dr. John Moraros came to BU from the University of Saskatchewan, where he served as an Associate Professor of Behavioral Science, Health Disparities, and Epidemiology in the School of Public Health. He holds an MD from Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juárez, Mexico and an MPH and Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from New Mexico State, USA. Previously, Dr. Moraros also served in various academic leadership positions, including Director, Master of Public Health (MPH) program. Presently, he serves on the Executive Board for a number of national and international organizations. He has authored or co-authored more than 50 peer-reviewed manuscripts in highly respected scientific journals and has given more than 60 scientific presentations (both oral and poster format) in various national and international conferences.

"The people of Brandon and the Faculty of Health Studies have been so warm and welcoming," Dr. Moraros said. "It is an honour and a privilege to be entrusted with this wonderful opportunity to lead BU's Faculty of Health Studies and set our sights to even greater heights."

FACULTY OF ARTS

A Scholar with deep roots at Brandon University has been selected to lead the Faculty of Arts as Acting Dean. Dr. Lisa Robson will hold the position through 2019–20 while the University conducts a thorough search for a new permanent Dean of Arts.



Dr. Lisa Robson

Dr. Robson was appointed to the role of Acting Dean after serving as an Associate Professor of English and Creative Writing at BU and the coordinator of the Gender & Women's Studies program. She had previously served several years as Chair of English and Creative Writing.

"This is an important time for the Faculty of Arts, as we work towards securing a new, permanent dean," she said. "As Acting Dean, I want to do all I can to foster an environment where faculty and students have the support and space to excel in their areas of expertise and interest."

She said that academic excellence for both students and faculty would continue to be a high priority for the Faculty of Arts.

"The Faculty of Arts is full of strong, effective, bold scholars who teach, do research, and serve the community — both academic and general — with energy and skill," said Dr. Robson, who is also a BU graduate. "Our student population is growing, and those students who come through the Arts Faculty deserve the best academic experience we can offer."



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The deadline for abstracts is
September 30, 2019

BU opens multi-faith prayer and meditation space



Dr. Faiz Ahmad, a Professor in Brandon University's Department of Biology, speaks during the opening of the new multi-faith prayer and meditation space.

MEMBERS OF THE BRANDON UNIVERSITY community have a new space on campus for private prayer, religious reflection and meditation with the opening of a dedicated multi-faith space in the Queen Elizabeth II Music Building.

"The diverse range of people that we welcome at Brandon University, including people of numerous faiths and beliefs, drives so much of the energy and success on campus. We are happy to create a new space that can better accommodate these kinds of needs," said BU Dean of Students Katie Gross. "I really credit BU students for identifying this opportunity in the first place and working with us to find a solution."

The new space is located in a naturally quiet area, and features accommodations for adherents of faiths that require the removal of shoes or the washing of hands and feet. It is carpeted, has a shoe rack, and has been fitted with an ablution station.

173 new Canadian citizens sworn in at HLC ceremony

WITH APPLAUSE, CHEERS, and 'O Canada,' 173 of Canada's newest citizens were sworn in with a citizenship ceremony at Brandon University's Healthy Living Centre.

Among the Brandon University connections were BU employees Angel Nerio Leon and Nicoleta Babutiu. Originally from El Salvador, Nerio Leon came to Canada in 2012 and now works at BU Food Services and became a new Canadian citizen during the ceremony.

Babutiu is a Learning Skills Specialist who often works with International students as they adjust to the campus. She's also a recent Canadian citizen, having been naturalized last year, and also spoke to welcome the new citizens.

"The people that you meet and that live here — I think this makes Canada great," she said. "Many people already have in their own family history somebody that was an immigrant. They know how to treat new people, and how to help. Canadians welcome new immigrants but not only welcome, they also do something to help. It is about action, not just words."

Master's student earns scholarship for work to protect amphibians

A BRANDON UNIVERSITY master's student has earned a significant industry scholarship for her work with specialized mapping software.

For her master's thesis, Alyssa Eagle researched the risks of amphibian mortality on roads using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology.

Among her findings were that high-mortality areas didn't necessarily correspond with areas where there were the highest populations.

For her work, Eagle, a BU science graduate who is now working towards a Master of Science degree, received a 2019 Esri Canada Higher Education Scholarship in GIS.

The scholarship includes \$1,000 cash, at least \$6,000 worth of software, textbooks and online training, and free registration to one of the company's user conferences.



Photo: W. van Heyst

Left to right: Dr. Derrek Eberts, Alyssa Eagle, Dr. Bernadette Ardelli and Dr. Pamela Rutherford.

McCulloch earns prestigious award for article published in Cambridge journal



Dr. Allison McCulloch

BRANDON UNIVERSITY'S DR. ALLISON McCULLOCH has received the Elizabeth Meehan 'Best Article' Prize for 2018. The award, announced recently, recognizes a peer-reviewed, original research article by Dr. McCulloch that appeared in the October 2018 edition of the *Government and Opposition* journal, published by Cambridge University Press.

"I am delighted to receive this recognition," said Dr. McCulloch, who is an Associate Professor of Political Science at Brandon University.

The article was the result of research McCulloch conducted in Belfast, Northern Ireland, while she was on sabbatical as a visiting research fellow at Queen's University Belfast. Her research was also partly supported by a BU research grant. She first applied the framework to Northern Ireland and has since extended it to a number of other post-conflict contexts, including Burundi, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and North Macedonia.

Her award-winning article also outlines modifications to the rules that could limit these kinds of abuses.

Mason book wins Outstanding Scholarship Prize



Dr. Corinne L. Mason

A BOOK BY BRANDON UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR Dr. Corinne L. Mason has been recognized with a national award.

Mason was the recipient of the Outstanding Scholarship Prize, presented by the Women's and Gender Studies et Recherches Féministes Association (WGSRF), at the Congress for the Social Sciences and Humanities in Vancouver. Mason's book, *Manufacturing Urgency: The Development Industry and Violence Against Women*, was one of 16 nominated works.

Published by the University of Regina Press in 2017 and available online at Amazon.ca, *Manufacturing Urgency* looks at three case studies. Mason uses these case studies to examine how the agendas of development organizations and government entities influence which issues surrounding violence against women are addressed as high priorities by those institutions.

In her congratulatory letter, WGSRF President Dr. Connie Guberman credits Mason for shining "a critical and conceptually stunning light" on anti-violence policies that serve hegemonic purposes rather than the needs of those they are designed to protect.



Kerry DuWors, left, and Futaba Niekawa

Rave reviews for new album by BU violinist

VIOLINIST KERRY DuWORS, an Associate Professor in BU's School of Music has been travelling the world in support of her new album.

DuWors and pianist Futaba Niekawa, who teaches at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, have performed together as duo526 since they studied at Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y. in 2011. They released their latest album, *DUO FANTASY* (Navona Records/Parma Recordings) in May. Featuring works by composers Villa-Lobos, Bax and Bolcom, the recording uses improvisation and free form to explore the fantasia elements of the pieces. The liner notes were written by the former Dean of BU's School of Music, Dr. Glen Carruthers.

The album has received rave reviews from *Gramophone Magazine*, *Cinemusical* and *Sonogram Magazine*.

DuWors and Niekawa recently performed a concert tour in Japan, and they will be in New Hampshire in October for the Avaloch Farm Music Institute Residency, followed by a tour of British Columbia from mid-May to mid-June 2020. They have also performed closer to home at the Clear Lake Chamber Music Festival and the Regina Chamber Music Festival.

DISCOVERY

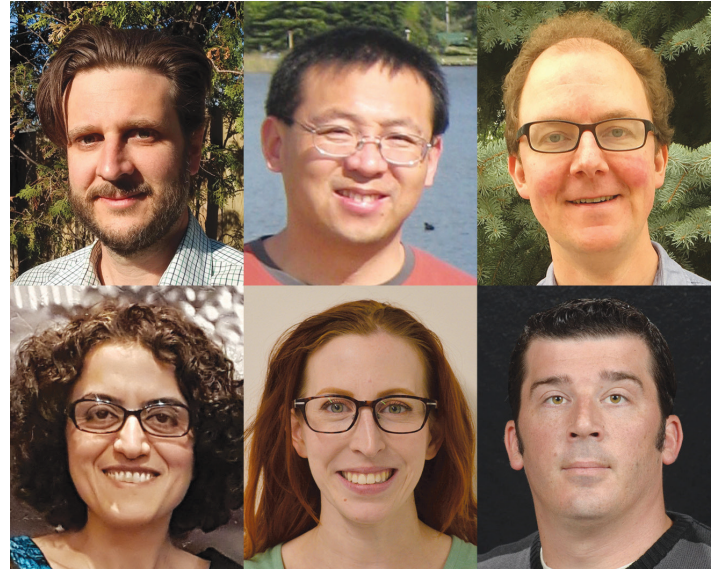
Research bolstered by \$800K federal investment

MORE THAN \$800,000 IN NEW FEDERAL research funding is flowing into Brandon University through the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Discovery Grants program.

Six faculty members — Drs. Alexander Koiter, Chenkuan Li, Rory Lucyshyn-Wright, Shahla Nasserar, Sarah Plosker and Peter Whittington — have been awarded five-year Discovery Grants, varying in value from \$75,000 to \$125,000. It's the largest BU Discovery Grant announcement in 25 years.

“Getting and maintaining this type of funding is a tremendous accomplishment, particularly at a small university,” said Dr. Bernadette Ardelli, Dean of Science at BU. “Our faculty manage significant teaching and service commitments, while working with largely undergraduate research assistants. Despite these challenges, they continue to excel.”

Four of the faculty members — Drs. Koiter, Nasserar, Lucyshyn-Wright and Whittington — are the recipients of NSERC



Clockwise from upper left: Dr. Alexander Koiter, Dr. Chenkuan Li, Dr. Rory Lucyshyn-Wright, Dr. Peter Whittington, Dr. Sarah Plosker and Dr. Shahla Nasserar.

Discovery Launch Supplements, valued at \$12,500 each. Dr. Lucyshyn-Wright has also been awarded a three-year NSERC Discovery Accelerator Supplement (DAS) with a total value of \$120,000.

Federal grant supports BU project to enhance First Nations cybersecurity

CYBERSECURITY ON MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS will be improved thanks to a Brandon University project funded by the Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA).

Drs. Sarah Plosker and Gautam Srivastava, who are Associate Professors in BU's Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, have received a grant of \$20,659 through CIRA's Community Investment Program. Their project will involve travelling to Indigenous communities in Manitoba to enhance cybersecurity education and knowledge by holding discussions about online privacy, in particular focusing on social media. The workshops will be open to everyone in the communities, with youth, Elders and other community members taking part in the exchange.

Two students will be hired to assist Drs. Plosker and Srivastava with the project.

Journal of Rural and Community Development receives national funding

A LONG-RUNNING AND INFLUENTIAL journal based at Brandon University will benefit from a three-year extension of support from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).

The investment by SSHRC will provide \$22,000 per year to assist with the continued publication of the Journal of Rural and Community Development (JRCD).

Published by BU's Rural Development Institute (RDI), the Journal of Rural and Community Development is an open-access, peer-reviewed online journal, providing a venue for academics and graduate students.

The JRCD now has nearly 12,000 readers in more than 100 countries.



A NEW CHAPTER

**NEW PRESIDENT DR. DAVID DOCHERTY SEES
BIG THINGS IN BRANDON UNIVERSITY'S FUTURE**

STORY BY
ROB HENDERSON

PHOTOS BY
BRUCE BUMSTEAD



IN THE EARLY MONTHS OF HIS PRESIDENCY, DR. DAVID DOCHERTY IS BEGINNING TO FEEL COMFORTABLE IN HIS NEW SURROUNDINGS AT BRANDON UNIVERSITY.

Docherty has spent countless hours getting to know people at BU and in the community, he and his wife, Kris, are settling into their new home, and he has presided over his first Convocation ceremony.

Still, there's something missing from his corner office on the first floor of Clark Hall. The walls remain an empty canvas, with BU's new President and Vice-Chancellor anxiously awaiting the key piece of art to tie the room together: a picture of Wrigley Field, the venerable home of baseball's Chicago Cubs, taken during a game on the day of Docherty's birth.

"There's three places I feel really comfortable: university campuses, legislatures and ballparks," Docherty says with a grin. "I was never going to make any money in baseball; that was clear from my little league."

Docherty had his opportunities in politics as well, but without any strong partisan leanings, he decided he was more suited to studying the ins and outs of legislature rather than navigating them himself. Besides, if he can't spend his days surrounded by Wrigley's ivy, the Virginia creeper that grows on the walls of Clark Hall at BU is a nice substitute.

“There’s three places I feel really comfortable: university campuses, legislatures and ballparks.”

Born in Midland and later moving to Owen Sound, Docherty spent most of his formative years in Ontario's southern Georgian Bay region before making the short trek south to Waterloo, where he earned his Bachelor of Arts at Wilfrid Laurier University (WLU). His political science studies led to the Ontario Legislative Internship Program, which included stints as a research assistant for both a governing Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) and an opposition MPP. The non-partisan program allowed Docherty to observe the inner-workings of Queen's Park and gave him a close-up look at a bellwether moment in Ontario politics. His internship

started as Bill Davis was winding down his term as Ontario premier, and finished just as David Peterson's Liberal government was sworn in to end 42 years of Conservative reign.

"We had a leadership change, we had an election, and we had a change of government. It was one of the most historic years, and for me it was a great, great time to be in the program," Docherty says.

Docherty actually did work in Ontario politics for a couple of years, serving as an Executive Assistant in the Speaker's Office before taking a year off to travel. He resumed his education by completing a Master of Arts at McMaster University and followed that with a PhD at the University of Toronto. Realizing he could study politics without actually being part of the machine was a revelation, even if it wasn't always glamorous.

"For about four years in February during reading week, while all my colleagues

were giving papers in Florida or Hawaii or California, I was spending a week in Winnipeg or Regina interviewing MLAs," says Docherty. "And, of course, you know that if the SSHRC (the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, which funded the project) ever audited my expenses the auditor would look and say OK, he's in Regina in February. It has to be work related."

Docherty's career as an educator began with a return to his undergraduate alma mater, Wilfrid Laurier. He started with a term job and was later able to secure a tenure-track position in Laurier's Department of Political Science. Docherty credits his willingness to teach a class that no one else wanted to take on with giving him the edge, telling the hiring committee it was his dream job.

"They said to me, 'you're lying.' I said 'Nope, it's my dream job because I'm not moving and it's tenure track. I'll teach anything,'" Docherty recalls. "I had a dream of having a job."

Having his first child on the way was a factor in convincing Docherty to chase that dream. While his family grew during his 17 years at Wilfrid Laurier, so did his portfolio under the mentorship of former WLU Provost Dr. Rowland Smith. Docherty became Chair of Political Science at WLU and led the department through innovative initiatives, including the first real-time exit polling of Canadian political science during an Ontario election.

He progressed to the Dean of Arts position at WLU, overseeing the addition of seven new Master of Arts programs and one PhD program. Docherty then moved into an advisory role, spearheading efforts to overhaul governance at Laurier.

After that task was completed, Docherty bid farewell to his longtime home and was hired in 2011 as the new President of Mount Royal University (MRU) in Calgary, which had recently transitioned from college status.

THE INSTALLATION CEREMONY

Installation is the name given to a formal ceremony at which one assumes the office of President and Vice-Chancellor at Brandon University.

Presidents at Brandon University are appointed by the Board of Governors, and generally begin their duties before an official Installation ceremony. Very early in their tenure, the formal ceremony is held as a public celebration where the incoming President takes the oath of office, and shares their vision for the future of Brandon University. Installation is also a time for the community to

participate in welcoming them to the institution.

Like other formal ceremonies, Installation is distinguished by the use of Brandon University's mace, the kandodo, and by the wearing of academic garb. During an Installation, the incoming President will be robed for the first time in the official gown of the office.

At Installation ceremonies, it is a common tradition for other post-secondary institutions to send formal greetings. Many will also take the opportunity to send a representative, often their President if he or she is able to attend. In this



BU Chancellor Michael Decter, left, presides over Dr. David Docherty's presidential installation at the Convocation ceremony. (Photography By Dale)

way, Installation is also an occasion for the wider post-secondary community to come together in celebration.

Docherty guided a period of significant growth at Mount Royal, in terms of strategic and campus planning, fundraising and the construction of a \$100-million library. About half of MRU's students were in degree programs when Docherty arrived, and that number was up to about 80 per cent when he completed his second term this year.

Docherty also learned a great deal about leadership and responsibility, not only administratively, but as the public face of a university. The latter point was driven home one holiday season when Docherty was less-than-enthused about a series of family errands and made his impatience apparent to the sales associate helping him.

"Do you know what she said to me? 'President Docherty, you shouldn't be so grumpy just before Christmas,'" Docherty admits, somewhat sheepishly. "At least I didn't swear."

Docherty knows that his profile will be even bigger in Brandon. It's a responsibility he happily accepts. It helps that he's found the people friendly and engaging upon his arrival.

The welcoming spirit has been greatly appreciated by the Dochertys, who are adjusting to life as empty-nesters. Their son Angus is starting graduate school at the University of Calgary, while their son Quinn attends St. Mary's University in Halifax. Their daughter, Madison, began her undergraduate studies at the University of British Columbia in the fall.

"All three of them, Angus was the first, said they would never go to school in any province where I was the president," Docherty chuckles.

Docherty hopes that students like them will look this way in the future, though. In fact, he believes Brandon University already has a lot going for it that is not recognized outside the area.



"I think we outperform in a lot of areas and we don't get credit for it," he said. "I'd like to see a student in high school in Ontario thinking, 'I want a small school experience. I can go to Mount Allison (in New Brunswick), or I can go to Brandon.' I'd like to get us to that point, but we're not going to forget our local core, either."

While he believes BU is on the right track, Docherty also sees a lot of work ahead, in terms of national awareness as well as on campus. He cites an upgraded science building as one of his top priorities.

Fortunately, Docherty says he's not alone in his desire to build BU.

"Since I've arrived, I think relations here are quite strong and quite positive," Docherty says. "There's a sense of 'let's get on with what we're doing. Let's get straight to the plan and let's look forward to building.'"

He's seen that optimism extend to the alumni.

"When I went to (a BU) alumni event while I was still living in Calgary, there were people who were in the Class of

'48 chatting with people from the Class of 2013, and that's kind of cool," he says. "I was told there would be a lot of work to do in development, and there is, but going over the list of donors there's a lot of people who are very supportive of this institution. Now it's about tapping into that and making the most of it."

Docherty says BU offers different challenges and opportunities, which was one of the things that attracted him to his new role. But there are aspects of his time at Mount Royal he would like to retain.

Occupying one corner of his new office is a set of bagpipes. Docherty managed to convince the pipe major at Mount Royal to let him join the band to pipe students in and out of convocation, something that became a yearly tradition.

"That was fun, that was really fun," Docherty says with a smile. "And there's talk that I might get to do it again here next year."



A photograph of two women, Michelle Magnusson and Morganna Malyon, standing outdoors behind a dark metal railing. Michelle Magnusson is in the background, wearing a dark patterned sleeveless top, with her arms crossed and smiling. Morganna Malyon is in the foreground, wearing a light blue denim jacket over a white shirt, with her arms crossed and smiling. The background is a light-colored brick wall.

Accessible Education

Everyone has the right to learn, and Student Accessibility Services removes barriers at BU

Story by Diane Nelson
Photos by Grant Hamilton

Shown above – Michelle Magnusson, back, and Morganna Malyon are familiar faces in Brandon University's Student Accessibility Services office. Magnusson is BU's Student Accessibility Coordinator, while Malyon filled the position during Magnusson's recent sabbatical.

The opportunity to pursue post-secondary education should not belong to a select few.

The goal of Brandon University's Student Accessibility program is making higher learning available to everyone who wants it.

By embracing inclusivity rather than exclusivity, by creating accommodations in tandem with faculty and students, BU has encouraged several people who might not otherwise have considered attending university, to do just that.

"My role is to provide access, in the form of accommodation support, for students who have temporary or permanent disabilities or medical conditions that create barriers to their learning or their ability to access the academic or university environment," said Michelle Magnusson, BU's Student Accessibility Coordinator.

"We work with students who may have learning disabilities, attention deficit, autism spectrum, visual impairments, hearing loss, mental health issues, or physical challenges in access — for example the student may have limited use of their hands, so may require note-taking or scribing supports."

"It's looking at what the individual barriers are and assisting the student to get the most out of their education. So it is accommodations like access to the recording of lectures, access to extra time

for tests, or a quiet space to write a test. Student Accessibility also provides access to technology, whether it is reading technology, or screen-reading technology, for those who are visually impaired, or have a learning disability. There are a lot of different opportunities.”

Student Accessibility also provides one-to-one support for students to communicate with their professors, get studying advice, or learn about the technology they can access.

“It’s basically to help level that playing field for the person with the disability and hopefully this access will help them be more successful,” Magnusson said.

Brandon University has taken its accessibility initiative one step farther by partnering with Inclusion Westman (formerly Community Living Brandon) to form an additional option for students with intellectual disabilities called Inclusive Post-Secondary Education, or IPSE.

“I support students with intellectual disabilities who would not meet regular admission (requirements) to access an authentic student experience” said Victoria Lelond, Coordinator of Inclusive Post-Secondary Education. “Inclusive post-secondary gives students that access to audit coherent programs of study. They choose programs based on their areas of interest, and they attend, just like any other student, to continue their learning, build relationships and networks on campus, and think about career aspirations.”

Students enrolled through IPSE are required to complete between 18 and 24 credit hours toward a Certificate of Completion. They receive this certificate at Convocation, alongside their peers, who are receiving degrees and diplomas. Consequently, IPSE provides opportunities that were once unavailable to a traditionally marginalized group of people.

“This allows them to continue their learning in a regular environment,” Lelond said. “A lot of the students who have come to Inclusive Post-Secondary have come out of more segregated classrooms in (Kindergarten to Grade 12), so it certainly helps them to learn in the regular environment with their peers. For the most part, they do go on to pursue meaningful employment afterwards.”

But why wait to work? One student attending BU through the program is a familiar face at Bobcats games, where he helps run fan experience events like the T-shirt cannon.

“Employment is always on my radar supporting students in IPSE” Lelond said. “Bryce (Eakin), who is studying Physical

Education, works as a Game Day Assistant for the Bobcats and he is very much involved in the BU Athletics culture. It’s about being creative and crafting a role within that field and thinking outside of the box.”

It’s not always just about a job. Lelond is proud that IPSE offers people with developmental disabilities a fully authentic student experience. Students attending Brandon University through Inclusive Post-Secondary Education attend for the same reasons as any other student: To continue their learning, to pursue courses and programs that develop their capacities, to meet

“It’s basically to help level that playing field for the person with the disability and hopefully this access will help them be more successful.”

new people, to join and participate in organizations that reflect their interests and concerns, and to explore their options for work through internships, career guidance and part-time or summer jobs.


Eakin is also a member of the Brandon University Physical Education Club, Lelond noted, and he has attended annual Physical Education conferences with his peers.

Nicole Turner, who hails from Boissevain, has just completed the Physical Education program, and began the first year of her Education degree this fall. When she arrived at BU, she found the unfamiliarity of not only a larger city, but a completely new educational environment, overwhelming. She went to the Accessibility office for assistance, and Magnusson helped her adjust to her new circumstances by providing an ear, encouragement, guidance, and support.

“They just made me feel safe — I had someone that I could go to, because it wasn’t easy to go home to see family,” Turner said. “So I could always come here and see Michelle and then we’d just talk and things, and I would do some homework there. She understood that I needed more time for tests and so she made arrangements for that to happen.”

Having a safe haven made her feel much more comfortable and confident, so when she went into the Physical Education program and met Eakin, Turner wanted to give back by helping someone else.

“I thought I’d offer my help to him if he needed anything,”



she said. “Like sending him notes that I’ve already typed on my laptop for myself, it was easy to just send them to him and it just made his day. I’ve always said to my parents and friends if that’s all I can do to make his day, then of course I’m going to do that.”

The two have become friends, and Turner says Eakin has fit in well with members of the class.

“Within the Physical Education program we’re all pretty close, so everyone was willing to help,” Turner said. “Every morning I walk into (the phys-ed department) and he’s in there and someone is always talking to him or he’s always cracking jokes with someone.”

Turner said technology has simplified and improved her ability to communicate substantially. She and her classmates are examples of what she thinks society is becoming — more understanding than it used to be. As well, she said, one only has to look a little deeper to find out how much differently abled individuals have to contribute.

“A lot of people realized in group projects that (Eakin) is very capable of doing what we’re doing — you just have to give a little more guidance and then he’s good to go,” Turner said. “I thought he was just a super-awesome person — he was just so outgoing all the time and he was willing to try. He was willing to put himself out there and meet new friends and communicate with us.”

It is exactly that go-getter attitude that Lelond hopes to foster in other students who attend Brandon University through IPSE. While both she and Magnusson caution that expectations have to be realistic given whatever a particular student’s challenges might be, nowadays prospects are much brighter, both for students who need accessibility accommodations and for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

“The IPSE program is new to Westman and so it’s a new concept for our local schools, and for families to grasp that my son or daughter could possibly go to post-secondary,” Magnusson said.

“Nowadays prospects are much brighter, both for students who need accessibility accommodations and for individuals with intellectual disabilities.”

As Co-ordinator of Inclusive Post-secondary Education, Victoria Lelond helps students who have intellectual abilities gain the value of learning in the university environment.

But those potentially more rewarding futures come with a price tag. The funds for Lelond's position at BU were provided through a grant from Inclusion Westman. It is a pilot program, because they have yet to secure sustainable funding to support IPSE on an ongoing basis. Magnusson is up front about the fact that they are actively looking for financial support for the program.

"Right now we have two students, and what we want to do is build the initiative so that we have 10 students who we can support with the staffing we have," Magnusson said.

While both Magnusson and Lelond are thrilled that the IPSE program has been established here, they acknowledge that we're a bit behind the times in implementing it.

"In Alberta and B.C., they've been doing inclusive post-secondary initiatives for

20- or 30-plus years," Lelond said. "So I'm excited to be here starting from the ground up in Brandon. We're starting it very modestly, but we're starting it."

While one might expect there would be

"The IPSE program is new to Westman and so it's a new concept for our local schools, and for families to grasp that my son or daughter could possibly go to post-secondary."

a bit of resistance to the idea from some quarters, it seems exactly the opposite is the case. Praise and encouragement for the IPSE program has come from all facets of the university.

"It's interesting — the certificate program, when it was presented to the Senate

subcommittee, they approved it, and then it went to Senate — people were so supportive of it," Magnusson said. "They asked very thoughtful questions — they want it to fulfill a need that we have in society."

"And faculty have even written letters of support, so faculty have really embraced it too," Lelond said. "I think for the longest time, this opportunity was not an option. Students with intellectual or developmental disabilities could not go to university. That was not the reality. So that's a big piece of it for me, is this whole movement toward inclusion. It embraces this idea that everyone has something of value to contribute. It's about a mindset shift, really."

With that kind of energy behind the IPSE initiative, both Magnusson and Lelond are optimistic funds can be found to keep the program operating and thriving, with the obvious end result being an enhancement of the quality of life for many people throughout Westman.

"Here at BU, we have wonderful faculty, we have wonderful staff, we have the support of deans and administration," Magnusson enthused. "we do not just do this because we have to — we do it because it's inclusive and it's the right thing to do."



Bryce Eakin mans the t-shirt Cannon at a Brandon University Bobcats game. Also a Physical Education student at BU, Eakin has become well known around campus as a member of the Bobcats' event staff.



Fired Up

Joining BU as a mature student unlocked a dream career in emergency management for Greg Bartlett.

Story by Perry Bergson

Greg Bartlett may have been born to fight fires, but Brandon University gave him the tools to thrive.

Now 42 and working out of Winnipeg as a rural emergency management professional with the province of Manitoba, Bartlett proudly considers himself to be a practitioner. But Brandon University added an element when he kickstarted his academic career at age 35 in the fall of 2009.

"It was the right size for me, small classes, individual attention, a wide breadth of knowledge from a faculty standpoint, and the key thing that drove me there was a science degree being offered in disaster management through the Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies program with a minor of your choice," Bartlett said. "Recognizing there was that rural component, I was basically signed up there and then."

SHOWN ABOVE: Brandon University graduate Greg Bartlett visits "polar bear jail" while in Churchill, Man. to help restore rail service after flooding wiped out the tracks.

His journey to Brandon University was unusual.

Bartlett was born and raised in the Ontario community of Whitby, located 57 kilometres east of the CN Tower. His parents Ed and Gail owned an auto-glass business, and Ed became a volunteer firefighter in 1976.

“Having Dad leave the house for emergencies was not uncommon,” said Bartlett, who remembers him fighting spring grass fires for days at a time.

Bartlett first picked up safety training in high school as a sea cadet, and in 1998, was recruited by a military acquaintance as a civilian wildland firefighter at CFB Petawawa.

He would battle range fires, and quickly came to the realization that would define his career.

In wildfire management, a six-man helicopter unit could finish a job in two hours that would have taken his father two days to complete in a truck. It epitomized the differences in how rural and urban fires are fought, and how little the two types of systems communicate.

His Petawawa fire marshall, Lt.-Col Sean Tracey, was a Canadian representative on the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), an American-based organization that develops standards and best practices for local governments.

Bartlett was inspired, and remains fascinated by the relationship between natural and human-developed lands.

“That’s what drove me to this level of interest,” Bartlett said. “To this day I eat, sleep and dream about the wildland-urban interface and mitigating natural hazards.”

With his interest and contacts, Bartlett was one of the first Canadians to receive NFPA-certified FireWise training.

Bartlett subsequently taught 200 Toronto firefighters to deal with issues in parks and the expanding community’s boundaries.

Three massive blazes approaching from the north had the potential to create a world-class catastrophe.

“Since a Rank 6 fire gives off the same heat and energy as a nuclear bomb, I recognized that this was going to be a big problem,” Bartlett said.

“It was like the door opened up and I had these ideas and concepts that were being fostered at BU.”

GREG BARTLETT



Working on wildfires fueled Greg Bartlett’s interest in the relationship between rural and urban firefighting.

If the sodium cyanide burned, it would be swept into a fiery weather pattern created by the blaze and deposited over eastern Saskatchewan and western Manitoba.

With an untrained mine staff of 30 — and wind conditions that kept further resources from reaching them — Bartlett and his team hurried to do what they could, while also developing a contingency plan to spend up to 90 days underground in the mine if they were forced into a desperate last stand.

The fires burned to within three kilometres of the site, “a little too close for comfort,” Bartlett said, before the wind shifted. That allowed the province to respond, and the fires were steered around the mine site by a combination of crews and water bombers.

Bartlett’s team subsequently rewrote provincial legislation, providing Saskatchewan with the ability to comment on industrial development and wildfire mitigation procedures.

In 2008, he took a contract in Alberta and studied the strategies used to guard the oil industry. He worked with professors and students from the University of Alberta, and they urged him to get his degree.

A most unusual six-year university career began.

Bartlett had the advantage of studying at Brandon University under the former editor of the *International Association of Wildfire*, Dr. Gwynfor Richards. He also cited leaders in rural sociology out of the Rural Development Institute, talented geographers such as Dr. Doug Ramsey and a professor, Dr. Balfour Spence, who had spent part of his career mitigating natural disasters in the Caribbean.

"It was like the door opened up and I had these ideas and concepts that were being fostered at BU," Bartlett said. "And when I say fostered, a small university in the middle of the Prairies is the best-kept secret. It's a hidden gem."

Bartlett admits his return to the classroom wasn't ideal, calling himself

"You don't have to be an 18-year-old kid. You can come to university with life experience and build on it."

a mediocre student in his first year. His advice to prospective mature students is simple.

"Be ready for change, open your mind and close your mouth," Bartlett said. "When

someone asks your opinion, count to 10 and then give it. It's very pragmatic. Be ready for the unexpected. If a door opens, stick your foot in it and walk through. Don't be afraid."



Bartlett got his passion for firefighting from his father, Edward, at an early age.

When Bartlett finally tapped into Dr. Richards' extensive knowledge in his second year, the light went on. He said his professors simply asked how they could help his interdisciplinary learning.

Life as one of a dozen or so students in the program was just part of his experience.

With the blessing of the Rural Development Institute, he travelled across Manitoba to discuss disaster management in industrial settings.

The United Nations was working on a similar project of trying to bring together natural hazard specialists with industrial experts, and with financial help from BU, Bartlett spoke at international conferences.

In 2013, he volunteered with the Railway Association of Canada's education arm and became the provincial chair for three years.

Bartlett also was a member of the Rural Policy Learning Commons, an international blend of practitioners and academics discussing issues of development and innovation.

On top of that, the NFPA asked him to serve on the code committee developing the universal and constantly evolving standards for rural fire protection.

"As a student, I was taking my lunch hours and spares in the Rural Development Institute to take teleconferences on what I was researching," said Bartlett, who continues to serve on the code committee.

He also worked in 2012 as the Calgary Stampede's safety lead for its evening shows.

Bartlett remains grateful his professors at BU were able to see the bigger picture with his studies, and would sometimes make time for discussions over a coffee.

"I was supposed to be attending classes and my extra-curricular activities sometimes got in the way," Bartlett said.

In 2011 and 2014, students were hired by the province to help inspect flood-impacted properties in southern Manitoba.

"You don't have to be an 18-year-old kid," Bartlett said of his time at BU. "You can come to university with life experience and build on it."

In 2015, days after he graduated, he became the emergency manager for the Pan Am and ParaPan Games in Toronto. Following an eight-month contract there — and being struck by a car and suffering a brain injury that involved an 18-month

“Be ready for change, open your mind...If a door opens, stick your foot in it and walk through. Don't be afraid.”



While he was a student at BU, Bartlett's experience earned him a position as a safety lead for the 2012 Calgary Stampede.

recovery — Bartlett returned to Manitoba when flooding took out the railway tracks to Churchill.

Dealing with a natural hazard interfering with industry in rural Canada, his previous involvement with the railway in Manitoba was a perfect fit.

He started in May 2018, and his team was able to help re-establish service.

Bartlett is quick to say he's not a scientist, but he believes climate change has intensified fires. It doesn't change what he does, but rather how he prepares.

"I have to keep up to speed with it," Bartlett said. "How do you do that? Research, scholarly materials, finding the cutting edge people who are already dealing with this and networking, conferences, and going to university and getting that foundation. And that's what BU did, was give me that foundation and network."

His provincial job leans heavily on that education.

Through constant planning and networking, Bartlett strives to build a comprehensive understanding of what's available in Manitoba and elsewhere to deal with an emergency, while trying to maintain situational readiness.

The first responders go in, and he is part of the second wave for his expertise. He can find the pieces needed to balance political and operational needs, whether it's a fire or counter terrorism.

"We're the best-kept secret," Bartlett said. "You don't want to see us because we want you to be successful as a community and we want you to be supported...We're ready to step in and support and empower you, and if you can do that without us, we've done our job."

He travels across North America and is deployable as needed. The key to his job is critical thinking based on knowledge, skills and experience. Identify the problem, and then find the best ways to solve it.

"I'm at my best when you're at your worst," Bartlett said. "Whatever disaster or hazard it is, it's through equipping yourself prior to the event that allows you to move forward."

A journey that began in Whitby and found its way to Brandon remains a long way from over. Bartlett hopes to one day earn his PhD or master's, while always keeping his boots on the ground as a practitioner.

"I've already hit my childhood dream," he said. "Some people never reach it."





Homecoming 2019 Highlights

HOMECOMING KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Homecoming welcomes founder of War Child Canada for public keynote

A renowned humanitarian, physician and best-selling author will headline Brandon University's annual Homecoming this fall. Dr. Samantha Nutt will present the public Homecoming keynote at the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium on Thursday evening, Oct. 17, as Homecoming weekend kicks off.

Dr. Nutt's presentation, "When Local is Global," will begin at 6:30 p.m. Tickets for the talk cost \$30.50 and are available online at wmca.ca or by calling 204-728-9510.

A leading authority on current affairs, war, international aid, and foreign policy, Dr. Nutt, a medical doctor and founder of the international humanitarian organizations War Child Canada and War Child USA, is one of the most recognized voices in the humanitarian arena. For more than 20 years, she has been on the front line of many of the world's major crises – from Iraq to Afghanistan, Somalia to the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Sierra Leone to Darfur, Sudan. These experiences have given her unique insights into the brutality of modern conflict: why it begins, what sustains it, and what must be done to prevent children from being held in its terrifying grip.



Photo: Dustin Rabin

Dr. Nutt will examine our obligations to the wider world: How do we impact on it, and how does it impact on us? What do we know, and what do we need to learn?

THURSDAY, OCT. 17

Homecoming Concert, 8 p.m.

Lorne Watson Recital Hall

Enjoy a casual evening of popular jazz tunes performed live by Greg Gatien, Dean of BU's School of Music, and faculty member Michael Cain. Meet and greet reception to follow. Limited seating.

FRIDAY, OCT. 18

Tailgate Party, 4:30–6:30 p.m.

Healthy Living Centre | \$20

Come out and have some pre-game fun and excitement under the tent for food and refreshments as you get ready to cheer on the Bobcats. Meet up with friends, classmates, or fellow co-workers and kick-off the weekend before heading into the gym for some

Bobcat action. Includes game ticket.

Bobcat's Volleyball Home Opener,

6 p.m. (women), 7:45 p.m. (men)

Healthy Living Centre | \$10

Make some noise for the Bobcats' Home Opener vs. the Thompson Rivers WolfPack. Show your colours and wear your Bobcat gear – old and new – as you cheer on our teams.



FOREVER BLUE & GOLD
HOMECOMING
17–20 OCTOBER 2019



**BRANDON
UNIVERSITY**

Homecoming 2019 Highlights

SATURDAY, OCT. 19

Campus Tours, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

The campus is yours to explore. Doors will be open in the morning for self-directed tours. Pick up a tour booklet at the Healthy Living Centre to start your journey. Or, take part in a guided tour in the afternoon.

Athletics Wall of Fame Brunch, 8:30 a.m. doors open, 9 a.m. meal Victoria Inn | \$50

A highlight of this year's volleyball reunion will feature the inductees into the Dick and Verda McDonald Sports Wall of Fame.

80 Years of Science, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Brodie Science Building

Join the Faculty of Science for events and displays throughout the day as we celebrate 80 years of science at BU.

Cartoon Cereal Bar, 10 a.m. Evans Theatre

Join us for a movie presentation of Despicable Me 2. Snacks will include a variety of family favourite cereals.

Indigenous Alumni Reunion

All alumni and the entire community are welcome. Events will include a Pipe Ceremony at 10:30 a.m., and the Indigenous Reunion Luncheon at 11:30 a.m., followed by a Sharing

Circle. Indigenous alumni will also be celebrated as part of Saturday's Homecoming Dinner & Awards.

Family Fun Afternoon, 1–4 p.m.

Take in family-friendly events around campus, such as haunted residence, bannock over the fire and tests of skill and luck at the Henry Champ Gym.

Bobcats Athletics, 1–9 p.m.

Healthy Living Centre

BU faces Canadian Mennonite University in soccer before taking on Thompson Rivers in volleyball.

World-Class Research BUILT in Brandon, 2–4:30 p.m.

Room 212, Clark Hall

Join us for wine and cheese as we learn about the amazing work of our BU Research Committee grant recipients. Projects will be showcased during 3-minute presentations that will leave you wanting more.

Homecoming Dinner & Awards 5 p.m. (cocktails), 6 p.m. (dinner) Harvest Hall | \$40

Enjoy an evening with friends and classmates as we recognize special anniversary class years and celebrate the achievements of BU alumni.

JOIN US

It's never been easier to join us for Homecoming! We have secured you great rates on accommodations and flights.

Victoria Inn – 204.725.1532
Group name: BU Homecoming
Limited number of rooms available.

WestJet Flights

5% off Econo fares and 10% off EconoFlex and Premium fares for travel within Canada. 2% off Econo, 5% off EconoFlex and 10% off Premium base fares for guests travelling trans-border into and out of Winnipeg or Brandon.

Book online:

westjet.com/conventions

Coupon code: G50ON17

Promo code (travel agent GDS only): VCC33

Travel period: Oct. 11-27, 2019

SUNDAY, OCT. 20

Farewell Brunch, 10 a.m.

Harvest Hall | \$20

Share your stories and memories as we bid farewell to classmates for another year!



FOREVER BLUE & GOLD
HOMECOMING
17-20 OCTOBER 2019



Homecoming 2019 Registration

REGISTRANT

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss ☐ Ms. ☐ Dr. ☐ Prof. ☐ Rev.

Name _____

Maiden Name (if applicable) _____

Graduation Type(s) / Year(s) _____
(e.g. B.A. 1993)

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Prov. _____ Postal Code _____

Country _____

Phone (home) _____ Phone (cell) _____

Email _____

May we include your name(s) and class year(s) on our website as an attendee of Homecoming 2019? ☐ Yes ☐ No

At the Dinner & Awards event, please seat me/us with the Class of _____.

☐ SPOUSE / ☐ GUEST

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss ☐ Ms. ☐ Dr. ☐ Prof. ☐ Rev.

Name _____

Maiden Name (if applicable) _____

Graduation Type(s) / Year(s) _____
(e.g. B.A. 1993)

I/WE WANT TO REGISTER FOR:

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17	Time	Place	Number	Cost	Total
Samantha Nutt Homecoming Address	6:30 pm – Tickets available from Western Manitoba	Centennial Auditorium (wmca.ca)			
Pro Series Homecoming Concert	8:00 pm	Lorne Watson Recital Hall		No Charge	—
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18	Time	Place	Number	Cost	Total
Tailgate Party (includes meal & game)	4:30-6:30 pm	Healthy Living Centre		\$20.00	
Volleyball Games Only	6:00-10:00 pm	Healthy Living Centre		\$10.00	
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19	Time	Place	Number	Cost	Total
Athletics Wall of Fame Brunch	8:30 am-12:00 pm	Victoria Inn - Grand Salon		\$50.00	
Indigenous Pipe Ceremony	10:30 am	Kavanagh Courtyard		No Charge	—
Cartoon Morning and Cereal Bar	10:00 am-12:00 pm	JRC Evans Theatre		No Charge	—
Indigenous Reunion Luncheon, followed by Sharing Circle	11:30 am	Library Gathering Space		No Charge	—
Guided Campus Tours	2:00-4:00 pm	Clark Hall Room 104		No Charge	—
World-Class Research: Built In Brandon Presentation	2:00-4:30 pm	Clark Hall Room 212		No Charge	—
Dinner & Awards	Cocktails: 5:00 pm Dinner: 6:00 pm	Harvest Hall		\$40.00	
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20	Time	Place	Number	Cost	Total
Farewell Brunch	10:00 am-12:00 pm	Harvest Hall		\$20.00	

PAYMENT METHOD ☐ Cheque Enclosed ☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Amex

Credit Card # _____

Expiry Date (mm/yy) _____ CVC (back of card) _____

Signature _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$

All prices include applicable taxes.

MAIL TO: Brandon University Alumni Association
270 – 18th St., Brandon, MB, R7A 6A9 Canada

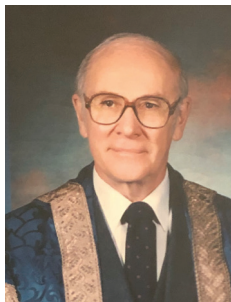
ALUMNI

BU hosts reception in memory of Dr. Perkins

BRANDON UNIVERSITY was the venue for a memorial reception in honour and memory of the late Dr. Harold (Jack) Perkins, a former President and Vice-Chancellor at BU.

On Friday, July 26, Dr. Perkins passed away peacefully at the age of 89. Dr. Perkins, who led BU from 1977 through 1983, and who returned as a full professor in the Faculty of Education from 1986 through to his retirement in 1998, made a deep and significant impact at the University.

“Dad was very passionate about the success of Brandon University and believed that, with the right resources, the university could achieve anything,” said his son, Dave Perkins. “We, his family, are very proud of his accomplishments, thrilled that the university is willing to help us celebrate his life in the institution that he



Dr. Harold (Jack) Perkins

loved, and honoured that Brandon University recognizes his contribution to the university.”

During his time as President, Dr. Perkins was instrumental in creating the Brandon University Foundation — the charitable arm of BU that today stewards more than \$65 million in endowments and other assets, and which has disbursed more than \$55 million to Brandon University to support scholarship, research and the improvement of University facilities and activities. Together with his wife Mary Louise, Dr. Perkins also established a scholarship fund in the School of Music, and in 1999 he was awarded the Foundation's Apex Award for his outstanding service.

“Dr. Perkins saw financial need in his student population,” said BU Foundation President Rob McLennan. “The results of his vision and leadership in the establishment of the Foundation saw some 535 happy BU students receive bursaries and scholarships last year. Can you imagine his expectations for the future?”

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Thomas G. Baptie, *Associate '84*
April 29, 2019

Reginald W. Bray, *BA '73*
April 20, 2018

Eleanor A. (Riesberry) Brownlee, *BA '64 - June 9, 2019*

Wayne A. Currah, *Associate '81*
February 18, 2017

Mary M. (Doyle) Cyr, *BA '37*
February 21, 2018

Anne M. Desjarlais, *Associate '75*
December 24, 2018

C. Stewart Farnell, *TTC '63, BA '69, BEd '78 - January 7, 2019*

John William B. Furrrie, *BT '80, BEd '81 - August 3, 2018*

Patricia A. (Pope) Gaye, *BA '53*
June 8, 2019

Tena I. (Kettles) Gough, *BSc '49*
November 12, 2018

Robert J. Harris, *BA '56*
January 31, 2019

Catherine (Hannah) Huene, *Associate '51 - March 25, 2019*

George A. Jakubowski, *BSc '53*
December 17, 2018

William B. Keller, *BA '55*
December 18, 2018

Robert Arthur J. McDonald, *BA '65 - June 19, 2019*

David J. McDowell, *TTC '57, BA '65 - June 18, 2019*

Shirley J. Paine, *Honourary '08*
February 12, 2019

Carol A. Pelton, *MEd '03*
April 30, 2019

Doris V. Pratt, *BT '75, BEd '83, MEd '97 - March 6, 2019*

Robert C. Simmons, *BSc '60*
January 30, 2019

Elaine M. (MacDonald) Smith, *BSc '59 - June 9, 2019*

Ronald Smith, *BA '62, Cert Ed '64*
April 23, 2019

Kiersten S. Stitt, *Associate '12*
July 7, 2019

Garry W. Wilson, *BGS '99, BEd '02*
September 3, 2018

Paul L. Wilson, *BA '80*
March 22, 2019

FACULTY/ STAFF

Dr. Michael Blonar,
*Professor – Faculty of Arts,
Dean of Arts, 1972 – 1993*
April 23, 2019

Dr. (Harold) Jack Perkins
*President and Vice-Chancellor,
Professor – Faculty of
Education, 1977 – 1998*
July 26, 2019

Dr. Eugene Rankin,
*Associate Professor – Faculty of
Education, 1983 – 2003*
May 30, 2019

Dr. Roger Smith,
*Associate Professor –
Faculty of Science, Dean of
Science, 1973 – 2004*
June 16, 2019

SUPPORT

Bursary honours BU alumna's lifelong dedication to helping others

THE FAMILY OF A BU Alumni Award winner has established a new award to carry on her tradition of helping others.

Deborah Wright-Nantel was born in 1951, and her formative years were spent on the family farm northwest of Waskada, Man. "Debbie" possessed an uncanny ability to solve problems and get things done, which was attributed in part to being born with achondroplasia, a genetic condition that left her short in stature. While having "dwarfism" would entail dealing with many different circumstances in her life, it also engendered in her a lifetime of resilience and creative problem-solving, and a drive to understand and actively assist those of us who, in her words, are "different and not average." She, more than most people, knew what it meant to be different, and how that difference touches every aspect of life. She tackled every problem with resolve, optimism, and patience, and gave of herself freely so that many could enjoy opportunities they otherwise would not have had.

Debbie received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Brandon University in 1974. That university learning was the basis of her four-decade career in helping others, including



Deborah Wright-Nantel

the elderly, those in palliative care, abused women, and individuals with intellectual disabilities and mental illnesses. She enriched hundreds of lives by organizing and executing various programs, navigating government bureaucracy, and knowing when and where to do the things that mattered most—always with a smile and a kind word, sometimes with humour, and often with an empathetic tear.

Her lifelong approach to helping others was formally recognized in 2008, when she received the BU Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Community Service

Award. In her acceptance speech, Debbie said that "we should all be custodians of our community, and whether it be through volunteering, serving on a committee or board, or assisting an elderly neighbour, giving back not only enhances the quality of life for our community but also enhances our own quality of life."

Debbie passed away peacefully in January 2018 following a lengthy battle with cancer. To honour her lifetime achievements, her family has established the Deborah Wright-Nantel Memorial Bursary in Psychology, which will provide approximately \$700 annually to a psychology student in financial need.

Generosity of donors shines through Annual Appeal

Thank you! Through Brandon University's Annual Appeal in 2018-19, we received more than \$270,000 in gifts and pledges from alumni and friends!

This represents one of the largest amounts raised through the Annual Appeal, trailing only the special appeal that marked the BU50 anniversary celebrations of 2017-18.

These funds improve programs and services for our students,

ensuring they have access to the best education. You have the choice of giving to the area that is most meaningful to you, or supporting the University's area of greatest need.

Be sure to watch for your Annual Appeal package this fall and help us surpass last year's amount raised.

Your gift to BU is tax-deductible, and gifts received on or before Dec. 31, 2019 are eligible for a 2019 tax receipt.

Give online at BrandonU.ca/Give/Donate, by phone at 204-727-7374 or 877-282-4483, or by cheque to BU Foundation, 270-18th Street, Brandon, MB R7A 6A9.

Generous estate gift boosts General Proficiency Scholarship Fund



Margaret Louise (née McKay) Eggleton

THE GENERAL PROFICIENCY SCHOLARSHIP FUND at Brandon University has had a significant boost thanks to the thoughtful pre-planning of a generous estate gift by Charles Roy and Margaret Louise (née McKay) Eggleton. The Eggletons were both born and raised in Brandon and lived in the city for their entire lives, including their 60-year marriage. In fact, Margaret lived in the University area for the entirety of her life.

Margaret received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Brandon College in 1941. Charles served in the Royal Canadian Air Force during WWII. They were both involved in business in Brandon and, in their retirement, enjoyed their cottage at Clear Lake.

“Marg and Charlie,” as they were better known, enjoyed traveling into their 80s, but drew the circle closer to Brandon and Clear Lake after that. They were avid bridge players and always liked to keep their hands busy. Charlie was particularly skilled in stained glass and fond of woodworking. And as soon as the weather allowed, Marg was never far from a can of paint.

Margaret had a long history of giving to Brandon University, hardly missing an annual gift within the past 30 years. She was a valued President’s Circle member 20 of those years, directing her gifts to the Area of Greatest Need, the School of Music, and the John E. Robbins Library Acquisitions Fund.

Charles passed away in October 2012 and Margaret in September 2017. Their estate gift was received in 2018 and will provide about \$12,000 per year in student scholarships.

Brandon College graduate establishing scholarship to honour wife

DR. WILLIAM CHEFURKA (Brandon College Class of ’46) has established a scholarship in honour of his late wife, Patricia Frith Chefurka. “Pat” Chefurka was born in Manitoba in 1924. She received a Bachelor of Science degree from Brandon College in 1945 and later became the first woman to receive a master’s degree in Physics from Montana State College.

After six years of teaching in a London, Ont. high school, she accepted a position teaching in the Physics Department at The University of Western Ontario in 1963. In 1974 she returned to her family roots of farming, among other pursuits.



Patricia Frith Chefurka

Pat was actively involved in politics during the 1940s when she became a member of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, the precursor to the NDP, and spent a great deal of time with fellow Brandon College graduate Tommy Douglas, then the Premier of Saskatchewan. She was a candidate in several provincial and federal elections during the 1960s and 1970s, was elected President of the London and Middlesex Riding Association, and was on the Provincial Executive of the Ontario New Democratic Party. She served as Vice-President for a term, was Chairman of the Provincial Resolutions Committee, and was the first female President of the Ontario NDP. In addition to these interests, she was a social activist and a mentor to many over the course of her life. She died peacefully of complications from Parkinson’s Disease in 2018.

The Patricia Frith Chefurka Scholarship in Physics will provide \$5,000 to the female student with the highest academic standing entering second year who has declared a major in Physics. The award may be renewed twice provided the student maintains a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and a minimum GPA in Physics courses of 3.5. The scholarship may be renewed a third time if the student has been accepted into a graduate program in Physics.

DONATIONS

Thank you to the following alumni who supported Brandon University in 2018. Many of these donors gave through the Annual Fund appeal, which raised more than \$304,000.

“Whether these funds support scholarships, library resources, research or equipment, they all directly benefit our students. It is an absolute honour to thank all of you who have shown such strong support for the University.”

Dr. David Docherty
President & Vice-Chancellor
Brandon University

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Every effort has been made to ensure that this listing is accurate and complete. Please report any errors or omissions to the Office of Advancement & External Relations at 204-727-7374 or 877-282-4483. Donors of \$1,000 or more in cumulative gifts

are also listed as members of the Order of the Sheaf in the *Brandon University Foundation Annual Report*. Request a copy by calling one of the aforementioned numbers, or, view it online at BrandonU.ca/Give/Foundation/Report.

SPORTS

Men's volleyball brings national hardware back to Brandon

THE DECORATED Brandon University Bobcats men's volleyball program shined during the 2018-19 season, adding a national silver medal and a pair of major individual awards to the trophy case.

The Bobcats followed up their Canada West Universities Athletic Association championship by winning silver at the U SPORTS men's volleyball championship at Université Laval in Quebec City. The Bobcats lost 3-0 (25-23, 25-21, 25-19) to the Trinity Western University Spartans.

The Bobcats had beaten the Spartans all three previous times they played, including in the conference final in front of a capacity crowd of 1,800 fans at the Healthy Living Centre a little more than a week earlier.

"It was a great season. I'm just so proud of the guys. It's just really unfortunate that we couldn't pull through today," said Brandon product and tournament all-star Seth Friesen, who finished with a team-high 10 kills in the U SPORTS final. Rookie outside hitter Robin Baghdady joined Friesen on the tournament all-star team.

A pair of Bobcats were second to none when U SPORTS handed out its



The Bobcats men's volleyball team went all the way to the national final. (Photo by Matt Packwood)

individual awards earlier in the week. Third-year outside hitter Elliott Viles was named the national player of the year, joining Paul Sanderson, who won the award in 2010, as the only Bobcats to earn that honour.

Bobcats head coach Grant Wilson was also honoured with a major award. Wilson was named U SPORTS Coach of the Year prior to the national final. Wilson led BU to a 20-2 regular-season record and the No. 1 national ranking for the entire second half of the season before

the Bobcats went on their remarkable playoff run.

The team continues to aim for its first national title in program history, and they will have chances to accomplish the feat on Manitoba soil the next two years.

The Bobcats are strong candidates to contend again as the University of Manitoba hosts the 2020 U SPORTS championship before BU gets its turn to host nationals at the Healthy Living Centre in March 2021.

Bobcats and Manitoba Colleges Athletic Conference join Canadian association

THE BU BOBCATS teams that compete in the Manitoba Colleges Athletic Conference (MCAC) are celebrating a big step after the Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) granted probationary status at the CCAA's annual general meeting in Calgary.

Acceptance into the CCAA means BU soccer teams will be able to advance and

compete for national championships against other elite college programs as early as the 2021-22 season after the Bobcats complete two years of probationary status.

"This is a great opportunity for our student-athletes to continue their pursuit of excellence against other elite athletes across the country," said BU Athletic

Director Russ Paddock. "This is a great benefit to our soccer programs as well as the entire MCAC, and we are excited for the chance to represent both our school and region on the national stage against fellow CCAA members."

The MCAC will compete in CCAA men's and women's soccer as well as CCAA men's and women's volleyball.

BU basketball standouts Hall of Fame bound

FAME IS EVERLASTING for some stalwarts of the Bobcats basketball programs.



Bill Moody



Mike Vaira

The Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame class of 2019 includes the Bobcat men's basketball dynasty. The 1987, 1988 and 1989 U SPORTS national championship teams will be inducted in Winnipeg on November 2 as part of the Hall of Fame's 40th anniversary year.

Meanwhile, Bobcat legends Mike Vaira and Bill Moody will be inducted into the Manitoba Basketball Hall of Fame this fall. Vaira was a national scoring champion who was the first Bobcat to earn All-Canadian recognition. Moody was a former team captain as a player

and was also a two-time Great Plains Athletic Conference Coach of the Year with the BU women's basketball squad, leading the Bobcats to the national rankings in four of his five seasons on the bench.

The induction ceremony will take place Saturday, Sept. 28, 2019 at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg.

Sports Wall of Fame inductees announced

THE SHORT BUT PROUD U SPORTS volleyball legacy at Brandon University will be highlighted at this year's Dick and Verda McDonald Sports Wall of Fame induction ceremony.

Former Bobcat volleyball stars Paul Sanderson, Teagan Hunter, Andrew Korol and Becky Birch (née Young) will be added to the wall at the Wall of Fame brunch on Saturday, Oct. 19. The induction class will also include Community Leaders Bill Gadd and Daryle McCannell for their work in guiding the volleyball program through its early days, as well as Bev Neufeld (née Morrison) for her efforts in basketball and field hockey. The 2008-09 Bobcats men's volleyball team will also be honoured.

The Dick and Verda McDonald Sports Wall of Fame is located on the second level of BU's Healthy Living Centre.

Tickets for the Wall of Fame brunch can be purchased from the Customer Service Centre at the Healthy Living Centre for \$50. Tables of eight can be reserved for \$350, and those travelling from outside of Brandon can reserve tickets by calling 204-727-7354.



Left to right: Linda Laminman of Special Olympics Manitoba Westman, Samaritan House executive director John Jackson, Tim Rowan of IG Wealth Management, BU Athletic Director Russ Paddock, Dennis Hunt of IG Wealth Management and Noreen Johnston of the Deloraine Winchester Community Complex.

Teeing off "fore" the community

THE LEGACY OF THE IG WEALTH MANAGEMENT Bobcat BIRT Cup continues to grow. The alumni and charity golf tournament raised \$44,000 for community initiatives this summer at the Wheat City Golf Course.

Proceeds went to Special Olympics Manitoba Westman, Samaritan House, the Deloraine Winchester Community Complex and the Bobcat BIRT Cup scholarship to assist Brandon University student-athletes.

"The IG Wealth Management Western Manitoba Regional Office is proud to be the title sponsor of the Bobcat BIRT Cup. We applaud the tournament's commitment to providing funding to local and regional organizations," said Dennis Hunt, Executive Financial Consultant with IG Wealth Management. "We have a long-standing partnership with Brandon University, supporting a number of fundraising initiatives such as the Healthy Living Centre and growth in the BU Athletics program. We are pleased to be associated with a post-secondary institution that prides itself on being at the forefront of education in western Manitoba and providing the best student-athlete experience possible."

In 2018, Bobcat Athletics took over the BIRT Cup from hockey alumnus Scott Hlady, who ran it independently for a decade, and the event raised \$29,000 in its first year under BU. The BIRT name stands for Basics, Intensity, Respect, Team — coined by the late Neil Andrews, a BU Sports of Wall of Famer, who was Hlady's baseball coach.

When Local Is Global

Thursday
October 17

WMCA

Doors 5:30

Talk 6:30

Tickets \$30⁵⁰

Price includes all
taxes and fees

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HOMEcoming
17-20 OCTOBER 2019

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